

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims supersedes all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A tire component forming material attaching device for attaching a tire component forming material having the shape of a belt of a predetermined small width to a support device, said tire component forming material attaching device comprising:

an attaching head that travels over the support device and delivers the tire component forming material onto the support device;

wherein the attaching head is provided with upper and lower rollers supported for rotation at different levels, respectively, the tire component forming material is supplied from above the upper roller, is wound over and round the upper roller in a first direction, is wound under and round the lower roller in a second direction opposite the first direction, the tire component forming material is delivered substantially horizontally from the lower roller onto the support device, and the tire component forming material delivered onto the support device is attached to the support device.

2. (Original) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 1, wherein a part of the tire component forming material substantially horizontally laid on the support device can be sucked up and held by suction by a suction means held on the attaching head.

3. (Original) A tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 2, wherein a cutting means is disposed between the lower roller and the suction means.

4. (Currently Amended) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein a cutting means is disposed at a position corresponding to an end edge of the support device.

5. (Currently Amended) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the rotating lower roller delivers the tire component forming material onto the support device and presses the tire component forming material against the upper surface of the support device to attach the tire component forming material to the support device as the attaching head travels.

6. (Currently Amended) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein a plurality of grooves are formed in one surface of the tire component forming material, and a guide plate provided with a plurality of ridges complementary to the grooves of the tire component forming material is disposed between the upper and the lower roller so that the surface provided with the ridges of the guide plate comes into contact with the surface provided with the grooves of the tire component forming material to position the belt correctly relative to the lower roller.

7. (Original) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 6, wherein the plurality of grooves of the tire component forming material are V-grooves having a V-shaped cross section, arranged parallel to each other at fixed pitches.

Please add the following new claims 8-11:

8. (New) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 2, wherein a cutting means is disposed at a position corresponding to an end edge of the support device.

9. (New) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 2, wherein the rotating lower roller delivers the tire component forming material onto the support device and presses the tire component forming material against the upper surface of the support device to attach the tire component forming material to the support device as the attaching head travels.

10. (New) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 2, wherein a plurality of grooves are formed in one surface of the tire component forming material, and a guide plate provided with a plurality of ridges complementary to the grooves of the tire component forming material is disposed between the upper and the lower roller so that the surface provided with the ridges of the guide plate comes into contact with the surface provided with the grooves of the tire component forming material to position the belt correctly relative to the lower roller.

11. (New) The tire component forming material attaching device according to claim 10, wherein the plurality of grooves of the tire component forming material are V-grooves having a V-shaped cross section, arranged parallel to each other at fixed pitches.